would be paid a certain percentage of their salary upon retirement for the services they had rendered to the State of Western Australia.

I firmly believe that they fully deserve that pension, and I also believe that when they die their widows should get some small payment for the rest of their lives. These 1871 pensioners who are still alive deserve some small increases from time to time to overtake the increase in the cost of living. It is not their fault that the cost of living has increased over the last 20 years or so since they have retired. But they have to bear the burden of those increases, and it is only fair that their pension should be increased in some way. There is only a small number of them, as has been emphasised in this House before; and, as the Premier well knows, it would not be a great burden upon the Treasury if these people were given an increase in their pensions.

I know, as does every other member in this House, that any person who is receiving a pension or superannuation payment below the rate of £7 a week is entitled to draw the old-age pension. I think that is a good thing, and I only hope that in the future the Commonwealth Government will further lift the allowable weekly income so that people will be able to get the old-age pension irrespective of what other income they may have. After all, everybody pays taxation, and surely everyone should be entitled to draw the old-age pension at the age of 60 or 65, no matter what the weekly income may be.

I also believe that many of the pensioners in the lower brackets of superannuation do not receive a superannuation payment of £7 a week; therefore I ask the Treasurer whether when he and his officers look into this matter they would see if it would be possible to increase the amount of superannuation payment to £7 a week; and in that way it will not affect the old-age pension.

In his opening remarks the Premier said he thought members should vote against the motion because of the action the Government has taken. I am still of the opinion that the House could support the motion because, as I said when I moved it, it is not binding on the Government. It only asks the Government to introduce legislation during the present session. The Premier has indicated that the matter will be mentioned when he brings down the Budget, although he did not say that legislation would be introduced after that. No doubt if it is not introduced this session it will be introduced in the following one. Therefore, as the motion is not binding on the Government, I hope members will support it.

Mr. Brand: I do not think there is any point in passing the motion.

Question put and negatived.

House adjourned at 9.57 p.m.

Legislative Assembly

Thursday, the 6th September, 1962

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CONTENTS—*continued*

The SPEAKER (Mr. Hearman) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

1. to 3. *These questions were postponed.*

HOUSING AT COLLIE

Removal of Houses from Lyalls Mill

4. Mr. H. MAY asked the Minister for Forests:

(1) Is he aware that the Forests Department intends to remove six houses from Lyalls Mill to Collie?

(2) Does he know that these houses are only in fair condition, and that the removal of same will cost £500 each, and more to renovate after re-erection?

(3) Has he been informed that there are, approximately, 130 vacant State Housing houses in Collie?

(4) Is the cost of removal of these six houses from Lyalls Mill to Collie justified, when so many houses in Collie are vacant at the present time?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) Cost of removal and renovation is not expected to exceed £300 each. In any case renovation is now necessary, and there are other unsatisfactory aspects at the Lyalls forest settlement; e.g., poor water supply.

(3) The State Housing Commission advises that the number fluctuates, but at present there are 125 State Housing Commission houses vacant.

(4) Yes. In the interests of better fire control organisation, it is desirable to concentrate employees near Collie Divisional Headquarters.

KUNUNURRA MEDICAL FACILITIES

Provision of Nursing Home and Ambulance

5. Mr. RHATIGAN asked the Minister for Health:

Further to my questions and his answers on the 23rd August relative to medical needs at Kununurra—

(1) when will the proposed nursing home be built;

(2) when will the urgently-required ambulance be provided?

Mr. ROSS HUTCHINSON replied:

(1) It is expected that construction of the nursing post will commence this month and be completed early in 1963.

(2) This is being arranged at the earliest practicable date following discussion with the St. John Ambulance Association. I am unable to say when it will be available.

PASTORAL RECLAMATION

Ord River Project: Cost

6. Mr. NORTON asked the Minister for Agriculture:

(1) What is the estimated cost of the Ord River reclamation project?

(2) What percentage of the total cost will the pastoralists pay?

(3) Is the cost of fencing included in the cost of reclamation?

(4) If not, what will be the cost and who will meet it?

Assistance to Gascoyne Pastoralists

(5) Will similar assistance be given to pastoralists in the Gascoyne electorate who have badly eroded areas?

Mr. NALDER replied:

(1) £240,000.

(2) 33⅓ per cent.

(3) Yes.

(4) Answered by No. (3).

(5) The Ord River regeneration project is not a scheme of assistance to pastoralists. Vegetative regeneration is being undertaken by the Government on the catchment of the Ord River dam so that the tremendous movement of silt into the river can be stopped and the building of the dam made a practicable proposition.

No financial assistance is given to pastoralists for the reclamation of eroded areas.

TOTALISATOR AGENCY BOARD

Unclaimed Dividends

7. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Police:

(1) What is the total amount of unclaimed dividends since the inception of the Totalisator Agency Board?

(2) Of this amount how much has been transferred from the "unclaimed dividends account" and carried to the funds of the board in accordance with section 23, subsection (4) of the T.A.B. Betting Act?

Amount Transferred to Capital Reserve

(3) Where in paragraph 7 of the board's report showing "Distribution of Turnover" is shown the one and one-quarter per cent. on turnover amounting to £91,422 which has to be transferred to capital reserve?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

(1) £29,743.

(2) £15,169.

(3) Under the item "Retained by the Board by way of provision and reserves and for writing off of establishment charges"—18s. 10d. The full amount of £1 5s. per centum was appropriated during the year but amounts were written off against the reserve by way of establishment charges and leasehold improvements.

Cash and Credit Betting

8. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Police:

(1) Is he aware that the 1960 report of the New Zealand Totalisator Agency Board shows that cash wagering supplied 94 per cent. of the turnover of £24,429,915 and the remainder came from bets made by telephone against a deposit lodged in advance and that there is no form of betting on credit?

(2) What percentage of the turnover of £7,313,741 of the Western Australian Totalisator Agency Board is supplied by cash wagering?

(3) Of the remainder of the turnover of the W.A. Totalisator Agency Board, what proportion came from bets made by telephone against deposits lodged in advance which at the 31st July totalled £2,738?

(4) What was the largest sum of deposits lodged in advance during any part of the year ended the 31st July last?

(5) In what manner is that part of the turnover not represented either by cash wagering or bets made by telephone against a deposit lodged in advance, accounted for?

(6) Was it the intention of the Government when establishing the Totalisator Agency Board to provide for any form of credit betting?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

(1) No.

(2) This is not known as, in so far as the board is concerned, all wagering is in cash.

(3) Of the total amount of £7,313,741 an amount of £130,810 was handled against cash deposits lodged with the board.

(4) £3,653 9s. 9d.

(5) In cash as the board only deals in cash.

(6) Yes, as provided in sections 33 and 34 of the Act.

BUREKUP SCHOOL

Permanency of Water Supply in Bore

9. Mr. I. W. MANNING asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

(1) What steps have been taken to prove the permanency of the water supply in the bore at the Burekup School?

(2) What further investigations are necessary to prove the adequacy of the supply in the bore?

(3) When is it anticipated that a decision can be given as to the permanency of the water supply?

Mr. WILD replied:

(1) No action has yet been taken to prove the permanency of the bore.

(2) Testing will have to be done to prove whether it is adequate for more than the purpose for which it is now proposed to use the water; i.e., a septic system for the school.

(3) A decision cannot be given on the permanency of supply until an extended test has been run and all data reviewed.

10. *This question was postponed.*

RADAR DETECTION UNIT

Installation at Mt. Barker Hill

11. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Electricity:

(1) When will the radar detection unit, now being installed at Mt. Barker Hill, by the S.E.C., be in operation?

(2) What detection scope will the radar unit have when installed?

(3) Will the radar unit operate under its own power unit, or will it depend on power supply?

Mr. NALDER replied:

(1) The State Electricity Commission is not installing a radar detection unit at Mt. Barker Hill. A radio station is being erected on Mt. Barker for communication with vehicles.

(2) and (3) The radio station will be in operation by the 21st September and will have standby power supplies.

SALINITY OF SOILS

Consideration of Mr. R. R. Pennefather's Report

12. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Agriculture:

(1) As the salinity of soils represents an increasing threat to the primary industry of this State, has the Government given any consideration to the report of R. R. Pennefather, on the salinity problem as affecting this State, and in particular, the wheat belt?

(2) If so, what preventive and corrective measures are intended, and when will action be commenced?

(3) If not, why has the report not been considered and its recommendations adopted and proceeded with?

Mr. NALDER replied:

(1) Mr. R. R. Pennefather's report on soil salinity, made in 1951, was considered by the Government at that time.

(2) Most of Mr. Pennefather's recommendations have been followed wholly or in part. Action taken has included—

(a) A salt land advisory committee, as recommended by Mr. Pennefather, was set up.

(b) A senior soil research officer was appointed in 1953 for this work.

(c) Methods of using salt lands for grazing have been found and recommended to farmers.

(d) Research into salinity problems is proceeding continuously.

(3) Answered by Nos. (1) and (2).

MINERAL SANDS

Leases 49H, 50H, and 59H: Names of Title-holders

13. Mr. HALL asked the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

Who holds the title of the ground, the subject of the leases Nos. 49H, 50H, and 59H, which stood in the names of Hancock Prospecting Pty. Ltd., Frank Albert Moore, Phillip Jackson at Cheyne Beach, Albany?

Mr. BOVELL replied:

Dredging claims 49H, 50H and 59H are existing in the names of Hancock Prospecting Pty. Ltd., Frank Albert Moore and Phillip Robert Jackson.

BULL CREEK

Development of Crown Land

14. Mr. D. G. MAY asked the Premier:

(1) Is he aware that the Metropolitan Region Scheme Report, 1962, clause 140, recommends the provision of a University, Regional Hospital and Teachers' Training College in an area of 400 acres of Crown land at Bull Creek, Riverton?

(2) If so, will he indicate what developmental action is proposed for each facility and the anticipated date of commencement?

Mr. BRAND replied:

(1) I am aware of the terms of paragraph 140 of the Metropolitan Region Scheme Report. It appears to be less specific than the questioner suggests. The paragraph reads in part as follows:—

> At this stage planning studies suggest that if a new Metropolitan University is to be established, an appropriate location would be at Bull Creek. It is considered that some 400 acres of Crown land there should be held for possible future requirements embracing University, Regional Hospital and Teachers' Training College and this is included as a reservation.

(2) As indicated by the tentative terms of the above quotation from the authority's report, firm decisions in this respect have yet to be made by the Government. At this stage the authority is concerned that the land be held with these possible developments in mind and is not diverted to other uses. No developmental action is called for in the immediate future, nor can a possible commencement date be indicated.

TOTALISATOR AGENCY BOARD

Contents of Affidavit

15. Mr. TONKIN asked the Minister for Police:

(1) In the matter of proceedings pending in the Full Court of the Supreme Court of Western Australia in which the Totalisator Agency Board is the appellant, was an affidavit sworn by J. P. Maher?

(2) If an affidavit was sworn, what are its contents?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) The affidavit is as follows:—

IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA
WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGISTRY

Application No. 12 of 1962

IN THE MATTER of proceedings pending in the Full Court of the Supreme Court of Western Australia in which Totalisator Agency Board is the Appellant and William James Wagner suing on behalf of himself and all persons being bookmakers within the meaning of the Betting Control Act 1954-1960 who carry on business as such under that Act and Frank George Cayley are the Respondents

I JOHN PHILIP MAHER of 1 Robinson Terrace Daglish in the State of Western Australia make oath and say as follows:—

1. I am duly appointed Chairman of the Totalisator Agency Board of 918 Hay Street Perth the Applicant in this matter.

2. The applicant is a body corporate constituted under the provisions of the Totalisator Agency Board Betting Act 1960.

3. On the 6th day of July 1961 proceedings were instituted in the Supreme Court of Western Australia against the applicant by the first plaintiff William James Wagner suing on behalf of himself and all persons being bookmakers within the meaning of the Betting Control Act 1954-1960 who carry on business as such under that Act, and the second plaintiff Frank George Cayley, a person who lodges with the applicant bets by way of wagering or gaming.

4. The action came on for hearing before His Honour Mr. Justice Virtue on the 12th day of October 1961 and on the 6th day of November 1961 His Honour ordered and declared:—

(i) that certain regulations made by the applicant relating to dividends declared by the applicant on races run outside the State were beyond power, void and of no effect, and

(ii) that upon the proper construction of the Act the applicant had no power to declare dividends upon any totalisator pool scheme operated by it otherwise than by dividing the total amount invested in the totalisator pool less 15% total commission pro rata between or among the successful investors.

5. The applicant appealed against the decision of His Honour and such appeal came on for hearing before the Full Court of the Supreme Court of Western Australia on the 17th day of April 1962 and on the 2nd day of August 1962 the Full Court held (Hale and D'Arcy, J.Js. Wolff, C.J. dissenting) that the said regulations were beyond power and invalid. It was also held by the Full Court that the judgment under appeal should be varied by striking out the reference to the declaration referred to in paragraph 4 (ii) above.

6. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit and marked with the letter "A" is a copy of the Appeal Book prepared for the purposes of the Appeal being the matter pending in the Full Court of the Supreme Court of Western Australia in respect of which special leave to appeal is now sought.

7. The reasons as delivered by each of the Learned Judges constituting the Full Court of the Supreme Court of Western Australia are produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit and are marked as follows:—

(a) The reasons of His Honour the Chief Justice Exhibit "B"

(b) The reasons of His Honour Mr. Justice Hale Exhibit "C"

(c) The reasons of His Honour Mr. Justice D'Arcy Exhibit "D"

8. The matter is one which is of considerable public interest and could affect financially a large

number of persons. It is also one of strict principle as far as the applicant is concerned. It has acted at all times in the genuine belief that its actions have been in accordance with law and for the benefit of the public generally. Its objective has been to remedy the evils which necessitated the introduction of the said Act.

9. The applicant and bookmakers who have paid winning bets in accordance with the said regulations in some cases have paid out less and in some cases have paid out more than would have been payable if the regulations had conformed to the views expressed by the majority of the Full Court and consequently the decision of the Full Court could result in claims being made against the applicant by a large number of claimants involving a considerable sum of money.

10. So long as the decision of the Full Court stands the power of the Board to make regulations under the said Act with relation to totalisator pool schemes conducted by the applicant on races run outside the State is very restricted and the applicant is extremely vulnerable to operations by big bettors or a combination of big bettors or bookmakers. Such operations could weaken public confidence in the scheme to such an extent that it would no longer be a financial success.

J. P. MAHER.

SWORN by the deponent the said JOHN PHILIP MAHER at Perth in the said State this 22nd day of August 1962. Before me:—

H. A. KENDALL.

A Justice of the Peace.

Filed on behalf of the Applicant.

SEWERAGE

Bassendean Extensions

16. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

(1) Are any sewerage works to take place in Bassendean?

(2) Can he say what streets will be sewered?

(3) Is it a fact that the shire council is not advised when sewerage works are commenced in the area?

Mr. WILD replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) It is the intention to construct in this financial year a large portion of area No. 2 on the north side of the railway line.

The approximate boundaries of area 2 are the railway on the south, Esther Street on the north, First Avenue on the west and Seventh Avenue on the east.

(3) It is normal practice to advise a local authority.

A letter and plan have been sent to the Bassendean Shire Council following the notice of entry lodged at the council's office on the 24th August, 1962, advising of entry into certain council property for the commencement of sewerage construction under the railway.

Bellevue and Koongamia Extensions

17. Mr. BRADY asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

(1) Are any plans being prepared for sewerage to be extended to Bellevue and Koongamia?

(2) When is it expected these areas will be sewered?

(3) As Bellevue has been a settled area for over 50 years, is there some reason for the continued delay in arranging sewerage work?

Mr. WILD replied:

(1) and (2) No; and as yet it is not known when these areas will be sewered.

(3) Extension of the sewerage system beyond the limits of Midland Junction townsite was not provided for in the design of the original scheme for the district. It may well be that the sewage from Midland Junction area will ultimately be included in either the north coast or south coast sewerage schemes. This would mean that further building up of the Perth central scheme to take additional areas, such as Bellevue and Koongamia, would not be necessary.

In addition, the cost of sewering Bellevue and Koongamia would be extremely high because of the lack of development in the area surrounding these suburbs.

Albany Municipality: Connections, and Revenue Received

18. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

(1) How many buildings in the Albany Municipality are connected with the P.W.D. sewerage scheme?

(2) What revenue is received by way of rates for water and service from buildings connected to the sewerage scheme?

(3) How many buildings in the Albany Municipality are adjacent to the sewerage main, but are not connected to same?

(4) What revenue is received by way of rates from buildings not connected to the sewerage scheme?

(5) How many pensioners have claimed exemptions from connection to the sewerage scheme because of indigent circumstances?

Mr. WILD replied:

(1) 1,398.

(2) £19,012 levied for 1961-62.

(3) 312.

(4) £2,872 levied for 1961-62.

(5) None.

WATER SUPPLIES AT ALBANY

Buildings Connected and Revenue from Rates

19. Mr. HALL asked the Minister for Water Supplies:

(1) How many buildings in the Albany municipality are connected to the P.W.D. water scheme?

(2) What revenue is received by way of rates for water supplied to buildings connected?

Buildings Unconnected and Revenue from Rates

(3) How many buildings in the Albany municipality are adjacent to the P.W.D. water main but are not connected?

(4) What revenue is received by way of rates from buildings not connected to water scheme?

Pensioners Exempt from Payment of Rates

(5) How many pensioners in the Albany municipality have claimed exemption from payment of water rates because of indigent circumstances?

Mr. WILD replied:

(1) 3,152.

(2) £49,236 levied for 1961-62.

(3) 38 are not connected to the scheme.

(4) £579 levied for 1961-62.

(5) 83 have claimed exemption under the Pensioners' Rates Exemption Act.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Statement by the Speaker

The SPEAKER (Mr. Hearman): During the last two sittings of the House some members have endeavoured to get around the requirements of Standing Order No. 109—namely, the one under which questions may be asked of private members—by the privilege of addressing a question to me to see whether that question would be in order.

Firstly, I want to say that questions of that nature should not be addressed to the Speaker in the House but should be discussed with him privately.

Secondly, I would point out that questions without notice are not provided for in our Standing Orders and are allowed purely by the indulgence of the Speaker: and there has been a precedent since I have been in this House for a Speaker to completely stop all questions without notice.

I consider the practice that has developed is an abuse of the privilege of asking questions without notice. I do not wish to put a blanket disallowance on all such questions, but I will have to give serious consideration to the question of not allowing them from certain members who appear to be inclined to abuse this privilege, unless they previously submit them to me.

I distinguish between the question asked yesterday and the one asked the day before; because in the case of the question asked the day before yesterday, the member to whom it was directed expressed no objection to its being allowed.

However, I feel that questions of this nature do nothing to enhance the standing of this House in the eyes of the public. In fact, I think they do a good deal towards lowering the standing of this House and can only give satisfaction to those elements within the community who would wish to see the standing of this House lowered. I do not wish to speak in this vein again; and I am sorry some members have abused the privilege.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

HEAVY VEHICLES

Installation of Tachographs

Mr. GAYFER asked the Minister for Transport:

(1) In the interests of the country areas and especially farmer-owned trucks, is he aware of the Press statement dealing with the suggested installation of tachographs in all heavy vehicles, including heavy buses?

(2) Would the Minister give me a definition of the term "Heavy Vehicles"?

(3) Would the Minister also give me an assurance that all aspects of heavy haulage will be considered before a decision is made?

(4) Is he aware of the cost that will be placed on farmers if the installation of such instruments on their trucks become law, especially if such vehicles rarely, in most cases, leave their properties, and then only to journey to the nearest siding?

(5) Could he give me the estimated cost of such an instrument, installed?

Mr. CRAIG replied:

I thank the honourable member for giving me prior notice of this question. The answers are as follows:—

(1) Yes.

(2) "Heavy Vehicle" is not defined in the Traffic Act or regulations.

(3) Yes.

(4) No.

(5) Approximately £75.

TOWN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Lewis (Minister for Education):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. MOIR (Boulder-Eyre) [2.34 p.m.]: This Bill, which will amend the Town Planning and Development Act, may not strike all members as being applicable to their particular interests. At first sight it may appear that the Bill applies only to the metropolitan region. However, it applies to every town in Western Australia. It is just as applicable to the little town of Ora Banda in the Kalgoorlie Shire Council area as it is to any town in the metropolitan area. Therefore, as all members are vitally interested, I think they should have a look at this Bill, and the one which is to follow.

This is a fairly small Bill and it contains four operative clauses. The purpose of one of the amendments is to extend the Interim Development Order for another year. As the Minister stated, it has been necessary to bring down a Bill each year since about 1956 to extend the operations of this Interim Development Order. I take it that it could probably be another year before the plans and procedures are developed beyond the initial stages of the Stephenson-Hepburn Plan; and it is only right and proper that the extension asked for should be granted.

The second provision in the Bill is a very important one. As we know, the town planning authority is clothed with far-reaching powers—very authoritative powers, too. The provision in the Bill will vest the powers of the town planning authority in local authorities. So to all intents and purposes local authorities will be able to wield the same power as the town planning authority now does. In some cases that could be desirable because it could be argued that when dealing with local matters, say, in Esperance, those people would be better acquainted with the needs of the people in that area than would an authority situated in the metropolitan area.

On the other hand we know that at times questions before local authorities become rather clouded because of local personalities, and in such cases it would be preferable if the deciding authority were situated in the metropolitan area. So I have rather mixed views on this amendment in the Bill. I am not happy about this provision at all; and, when the Minister is replying, I would like him to say whether it is a temporary measure just to meet the period of the Interim Development Order or whether it is to become a permanent feature of the parent legislation.

On the face of it, the third provision seems to be rather excellent; and I suppose that in the final analysis it will mean that an owner of land will be relieved of paying some fees which he paid previously. It must be understood that at the present time the owner of land subject to subdivision has to make land available for public purposes, for roads, for rights-of-way, and for various other purposes. At the moment he firstly gives the land; secondly, he pays for the survey of that land; and, thirdly, he pays for the transfer of the land to the Crown. Then he pays for the preparation of the necessary documents.

This amending Bill will eliminate quite a lot of those charges, but not all of them. The principle that is applied in this regard is all wrong. The owner who has to forfeit some of his land for public purposes should be recompensed for it. After all, it is his land and he may have held it for some time. It may even have been in his family for many years. Yet, because of the growth of settlement, it might be desirable for the land to be subdivided, and when this is done he has to forfeit quite a bit of it. I think members should give a lot of thought to this matter. Is it just that an owner must donate a substantial portion—in some cases it is very substantial—of his land to the Crown for the use of the public? I would like to leave that thought with members.

There is enormous authority vested in the town planning authority; and I say, advisedly, that in quite a lot of instances those in the authority act very harshly. I have not perhaps had the same amount of experience in these matters as members living in the metropolitan area, but I do know of one or two instances which have led me to believe that those in the authority do cause considerable inconvenience to people; and it is sometimes only after long endeavours that the difficulties are ironed out.

For instance, there was, a number of years ago, a friend of mine living in the Greenmount area. He and his wife had a

block of land of 1½ acres which they wished to divide in half to make two three-quarter-acre blocks. The reason was that they had a son who was contemplating marriage and he wished to build a home alongside that of his parents. However, the town planning authority held that the 1½ acres block was required as it was for gardens. I know that it would not have been possible to establish a commercial garden in that area. Those who are conversant with Greenmount know that there are some very nice gardens there. However, I am quite sure all members agree that a garden of 1½ acres surrounding a house would be far too much for a family to cope with. Indeed, in my opinion even three-quarters of an acre would present a problem in this regard.

My friends ran into innumerable difficulties, and it was not until an appeal was finally made to the then Minister (the late Gilbert Fraser) that anything was achieved. He personally inspected the land and upheld the appeal; and so, after 12 months had elapsed, these people were finally able to obtain a decision in the matter.

Not so long ago in Kalgoorlie another instance arose. A house had been built on a block somewhere about 1902. The block had been a large one and the owner had subdivided it. Probably in those days a person could subdivide whenever he liked; I do not know. The property had changed hands four or five times, and there had been no trouble about the transfer being granted until the last occasion. Then the town planning people objected to the title being granted because some of the requirements had not been complied with. The person concerned had had the matter in the hands of a lawyer for nine months, and no headway had been made at all.

It was not until many representations had been made to the authority that it finally agreed to waive its objections and allow the transfer of that property to take place. I would make it clear that a title had always been in existence, and the only objection was to the transfer of the title. Because of the objection, the people were inconvenienced; and, in my opinion, it was absolutely unnecessary.

I do believe the town planning authority has too much power. I do not doubt that it tries genuinely to carry out its work, but some in the authority unnecessarily wield power. It is for that reason I am a little apprehensive about these proposals.

In conclusion I wish to emphasise that to allow the transfer of land vested in the Crown, free of certain fees, is little enough. That is what the Bill provides for; and I feel that much more needs to be done, and that compensation should be paid to people whose land is taken from them for public purposes.

MR. LEWIS (Moore—Minister for Education) [2.48 p.m.]: I thank the member for Boulder-Eyre for his contribution to this debate. In regard to several of the points he raised, I think he will appreciate my difficulty inasmuch as I am representing the Minister concerned with this legislation. He is not at the moment within the precincts of Parliament House and so the answer to one or two of the honourable member's questions are not readily available. However, I will bring his submissions to the notice of the responsible Minister and ask him to deal with them in another place.

The great power conferred on the town planning authority, to which the honourable member made reference, is without doubt a very necessary one and it dates back a long time. From my brief research into this matter I understand that one of the earliest authorities was Sir Christopher Wren, who was charged with the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire in 1666.

It has not been a continuing process, until more recent times. However, we in Western Australia, even though we are a young State, see on every hand evidence of the lack of earlier planning. Therefore I think the member for Boulder-Eyre will agree with me that this is a very necessary authority and must, of necessity, be clothed with reasonable powers.

With regard to the permanence of this Bill in connection with local authorities, I think that there again it is going to be very necessary so long as there is need for town planning. While a local authority may, with an early development order, cater for the immediate needs of a town, in 20 years' time some other need may arise through local development, and the necessity for a town planning authority will arise. So I would say it would become a permanent feature. However, I will leave it to the Minister in another place to correct me if I am wrong.

Mr. Toms: It could be amended from time to time.

Mr. LEWIS: As the member for Bayswater points out, it could be amended from time to time. With regard to the surrender of land by owners for public purposes, I agree there seems to be some injustice in that. Nevertheless, I have yet to learn it is one which has been recognised by any of the State Governments in Australia. Here again, it is a matter of Government policy; and this is another point which I will refer to the Minister for Town Planning.

I think there is very little else which calls for a reply to the debate; but again I give my assurance that the several matters will be referred to the responsible Minister and will be dealt with in another place.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

METROPOLITAN REGION TOWN PLANNING SCHEME ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Lewis (Minister for Education):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. MOIR (Boulder-Eyre) [2.54 p.m.]: Some aspects of the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Bill appear to facilitate administrative decisions and their implementation. A provision in the Bill regarding objections seems to be a good one, and the removal of a time limit could be helpful, although there might be features about it which might not always be desirable.

The provision dealing with appeals seems to be quite an improvement on what applied before. Under the proposed provision the Minister can hear an appeal himself, or appoint a person or persons to hear an appeal and report thereon to the Minister. That seems to be very desirable, because I have heard quite a lot of criticism of the Minister for Local Government with regard to appeals. The consensus of opinion seems to be that the Minister is more adept at saying "No" than he is at saying "Yes."

That charge may or may not be justified; but if the question of appeals is placed under the jurisdiction of certain people appointed by the Minister, that charge will not be levelled at the Minister in future —whoever the Minister might be. I know that Ministers sometimes have to do things which are unpopular; and there is a human tendency in some people to take the line of least resistance and say "No", in every case. They feel that is the safe thing to do.

Quite a lot of appeals should be heard by a separate body; and that body should examine the evidence placed before it without any prejudice and without anyone's mind being clouded by what could be departmental requirements, and so on. That body should do what, in its opinion, is the just and equitable thing.

There is a provision in this Bill which I do not like at all, and which makes me very much opposed to the Bill. I refer to the question of compensation. I think members should take a serious look at this provision. I know that the Minister, when introducing the measure, mentioned all the provisions for compensating people. But it appears to me that the provisions are more likely to enable the authorities concerned to withhold compensation or to defer compensation. There is quite enough trouble already from people who consider they have for too long had to go without payment of compensation to which they feel justly entitled. Therefore I consider that the proposal to amend section 36 of the parent Act will impose a lot of difficulty and hardship on private owners.

From time to time I have heard members on this side of the House discussing the difficulties faced by people living in their electorates with regard to compensation for land resumed. I think that where the town planning proposals interfere with the rights of citizens, everything should be expedited. Private ownership should not be hampered; the private owner should not have his just dues in compensation deferred for any reason at all.

I would like to say that the officers concerned are undoubtedly very efficient officers in their own departments; but all too often departmental officers entirely overlook the human aspect of the problems and matters which come before them. From my point of view, anyway, the personal equation is very important; and if there is any likelihood of hardship being imposed on people by virtue of decisions being held up for any length of time, everything possible should be done to expedite the necessary compensation payments.

MR. LEWIS (Moore—Minister for Education) [3.1 p.m.]: I shall submit the views of the member for Boulder-Eyre to the Minister in charge of this legislation. The honourable member's main comment was in regard to the compensation provisions of the town-planning legislation; but I think he will appreciate that where a large number of properties, or properties with high values, are being taken over within a short period, there would not be sufficient finance within the range of the town-planning authorities to compensate all the owners of these properties immediately. It is true that a tax is levied to cover this position, but it is designed to meet the charges on loan funds over a number of years.

As the Minister for Town Planning has pointed out, there is really no loss to the landowner until such time as he is called upon to sell his property at a reduced price, because it has been taken over by the town-planning authorities; or he is prevented by some development order from developing it as he would wish and so suffers some loss of revenue in the process. However, as I said, I will submit the honourable member's views to the Minister and ask him to deal with them, if necessary, in the other place.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

BUSH FIRES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. BOVELL (Vasse—Minister for Lands) [3.5 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Following the disastrous bush fires of 1961 and the resultant loss of property, and the subsequent Royal Commission, a detailed review of existing legislation was made by the Government; and I submit for consideration by members proposed amendments to the Bush Fires Act, 1954-58, which are designed to effect even greater efficiency than now exists. It is proposed to increase the membership of the Bush Fires Board from 10 to 13 members by including the following additional members:—

(a) a person nominated by the Commissioner of Police;

(b) a person nominated by the Associated Sawmillers and Timber Merchants of W.A.;

(c) an additional nominee by the Country Shire Councils' Association.

This will give effect to recommendation No. 2 of the Royal Commission on Bush Fires.

At this stage it might be interesting for members to know the present composition of the Bush Fires Board. Its members are as follows:—

Mr. F. C. Smith, Chairman.
Mr. J. M. Stewart, representing the Country Shire Councils' Association.
Mr. J. Heitman, representing the Country Shire Councils' Association.
Mr. L. W. Nenke, representing the Country Shire Councils' Association.
Mr. J. R. Purse, representing the Country Shire Councils' Association.
Mr. S. H. Knight, representing the Country Shire Councils' Association.
Mr. A. J. Milesi, representing the Forests Department.
Mr. J. B. Horrigan, representing the Railways Commission.
Mr. A. W. Curtis, representing the Underwriters' Association.
Mr. A. R. Barrett, nominee of the Minister for Agriculture.

It is proposed to include bush fire control officers and members of the Police Force among those authorised to enter land to inquire into fires which may have occurred. Under present legislation these officers have no authority under the Act to carry out such a function. Present legislation permits local authorities to postpone for a period of up to 14 days the final date of the prohibited burning times declared for their districts. Frequently when the declared final date is reached weather conditions are favourable for burning, but several days later severe weather conditions may recur. It is therefore proposed to allow a local authority to reimpose the prohibited burning times after the expiration of the prohibited burning times declared for the district by the Governor.

It is considered that, to enable special protective burning and other protective measures to be planned and carried out by adjoining owners, or the Forests Department, the 1st September would be the most suitable date for the lodging of applications for burning for developing or clearing land, as landowners should know of their need to burn by that date. An amendment of this nature would give effect to recommendation No. 10 of the Royal Commission on Bush Fires, and an amendment to the existing legislation has been proposed in this Bill.

The Bill also makes provision for the recovery of costs by a bush fire brigade from the person responsible for lighting a fire which later escapes from his property. The person shall be liable to pay to the local authority, at the request of its bush fire brigade, a limited amount as recoup of expenses incurred by the brigade in extinguishing the fire. Such expenses may be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Setting fire to the bush during a bush fire emergency period is a most serious offence, yet no specific penalty is provided in the Act. It is thought most necessary that an amendment be sought, providing a specific penalty for such a breach.

To encourage additional protection where virgin blocks adjoin a railway reserve it is provided in the Bill that the occupier of adjoining land may set fire to the bush on his land "for the purpose of reducing or abating a fire hazard," in lieu of "for the purpose of protecting his pasture or crop."

At present there is no way of ascertaining whether a person who has set fire to the bush had a valid permit, other than by interrogating all bush fire control officers appointed by the local authority. This Bill therefore proposes to make it compulsory for a person who has set fire to the bush, to produce to an authorised officer his permit to burn.

Section 18 of the Act states that where the fire hazard forecast is "dangerous," a person who has received a permit to set fire to the bush shall not burn on that day. It is considered desirable to extend this prohibition to persons desiring to light cooking or camping fires in the open, and the Bill provides that, unless the written approval of the local authority has first been obtained, a fire for such purposes shall not be lit in the open air on any day on which a "dangerous" fire hazard forecast has been issued by the Bureau of Meteorology.

Members will recall that severe dangers have arisen from time to time because of fires lit in lime and brick kilns. It is proposed, therefore, that restrictions similar to those applying to the burning of charcoal during the restricted burning times shall also apply to burning for the production of lime. At Wanneroo the burning of lime has caused considerable fire danger, and it is the practice of the Chief Fire Control Officer to order the fires to be extinguished unless precautions are taken, although in fact the Act does not specifically authorise this action. The same problem could also arise in regard to brick kilns, and this Bill also proposes restrictions similar to those applying to the burning of sawdust at a timber mill.

There seems to be no reason why spark arresters could not be fitted to tractors operating in orchards or when passing through areas of severe fire hazard, but in some cases there may be problems in arranging a vertical exhaust system. Provision is made in this Bill that the local authority could at its discretion exempt tractors operating in orchards from the requirement of having a vertical exhaust system.

At present a fire lit for the purpose of destroying an animal carcase may be lit at any time of the day during the restricted burning times or during the prohibited burning times, without notification to any person. However, it is considered desirable such fires should only be lit between the hours of 6 o'clock and 11 o'clock in the evening, and that notice of intention to burn should be given to neighbours prior to lighting the fire. An amendment to this effect is included in the Bill.

Fires have been caused by incinerators which are operating in areas of dead grass or other inflammable material, or whilst situated against wooden buildings. The Bill provides that such incinerators may not be lit within six feet of any fence or building, and that a space of six feet from the incinerator must be cleared and kept cleared of all inflammable material. The local authority may approve in writing of any distance less than six feet being substituted for the distance of six feet in either case.

Section 34 (1) (a) of the Act refers to the "owner or occupier of land which abuts upon Crown land". The Bill proposes to exclude from the term "Crown land" all lands set apart as roads or land previously set apart as roads but now closed, as this section of the Act is obviously not intended to apply to such land.

It is considered also that the provisions of this section do not correctly express the intention that the occupier of land adjoining a reserve or vacant Crown land may construct a firebreak on such land not more than ten chains from his boundary, and may also protectively burn the bush between his boundary and the firebreak.

The Bill proposes to amend this section so as to clarify its intention as to the width of the firebreak. The question of damage to tyres of brigade and privately-owned vehicles has been a problem for some time, and this legislation proposes to authorise a local authority to expend portion of its ordinary revenue in recompensing the owners of vehicles for this type of damage.

At present local authorities are required to determine the seniority of their bush fire control officers, and the most senior has been regarded as the chief fire control officer. However, it is preferable that the positions of chief fire control officer, and deputy be named in the Act, and the Bill contains such a provision.

Efficiency is necessary for the declaration of a district as an "approved area". Prevention and protection measures are regarded as equally important as the fire-fighting efficiency of brigades, and an amendment to this effect has been included.

The Bill also includes a redraft of that section which extends certain immunities to various officers carrying out their duties under the Act. There is some doubt now as to whether the intended full immunity is extended to the officers concerned. It is also desirable that local authorities be included in the provisions relating to certain documents being accepted to cover the cases of prosecutions taken by local authorities.

Another amendment proposes that published notice of registration of the appointment of a bush fire control officer in the *Gazette* be accepted as proof of the appointment, as it is considered that the production of the *Gazette* would be the simplest proof available. To bring the Bush Fires Act into line with other Acts administered by local authorities, it is proposed that production in court of the rate book showing ownership of land be deemed to be sufficient evidence as to ownership of that land.

Courts have required that evidence must be supplied in person by a member of the staff of the Bureau of Meteorology. This

is costly and most inconvenient when prosecutions are heard in country centres, and the production in court of a certificate issued by the Bureau of Meteorology as to the fire hazard rating on a certain day should be deemed to be sufficient evidence. The Bill proposes such an amendment.

To give effect to recommendation 15 of the Royal Commission, bush fires advisory committees have been set up in many districts to assist the local authorities; and to give a greater backing to their establishment it was thought desirable to include a provision in the Bill regarding such committees.

The Bill includes an amendment which provides power for the board, with the approval of the Minister, to compel local authorities to accept their responsibilities under, and to enforce the provisions of, the Bush Fires Act.

I desire to record on behalf of the Government and myself, as Minister administering the Act, unqualified appreciation of, and thanks to, local authorities, members of voluntary bush fire organisations, wardens, farmers, forestry and police officers, and the rural community generally, for their co-operation in matters relating to bush fire prevention and control. It must be remembered that almost all the work in connection with this aspect is done in an honorary capacity; and I believe the efforts of all concerned have resulted in keeping to a minimum the danger hazard of bush fires.

Debate adjourned for one week, on motion by Mr. Kelly.

CEMETERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Nalder (Minister for Agriculture):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. H. MAY (Collie) [3.22 p.m.]: I have perused this Bill, which has for its purpose the amendment of the Cemeteries Act. It seems that through the passing years circumstances have arisen which make it necessary for the original Act to be amended. The first schedule to the Act says, "An ordinance to provide for the establishment of proper places for the burial of the dead."

Up till now a burial could be made anywhere outside a limit of 10 miles from a cemetery. I imagine, however, that even this Bill will not prevent, in the north-west part of the State, burials outside the proposed 50-mile limit. There is provision in the Bill which makes it possible to obtain approval for burial outside the prescribed area. This, of course, does not apply to the South-West Land Division.

The measure also provides for alienated land to be proclaimed as a public cemetery with the consent of the owner of the land. The object of this provision is to assist cemeteries which are operated by churches, and which are principally for the adherents of a particular church but in which at times persons of other denominations may be buried. At the present time the approval of the Governor is required for every burial, but the Bill makes provision that if church cemeteries are declared public cemeteries the Governor's approval is not then necessary. The question of raising funds is also considered. If passed, the measure will enable trustees to raise funds on an overdraft rather than have them mortgage the property.

I have perused the Bill, and studied the main Act; and, although there are several amendments to the original Act contained in the measure, many more amendments are necessary, having regard to the progress that has been made over the years in each and every direction. I suggest that the Minister could have included many more amendments to the original Act which would have proved most beneficial. But, all in all, and after having made a study of the Bill, I have no hesitation in supporting it.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

CHILD WELFARE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Craig (Minister for Transport):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. HAWKE (Northam—Leader of the Opposition) [3.31 p.m.]: This Bill to amend the Child Welfare Act contains a few amendments. I propose to deal only with some of the provisions which appear to me to be more important than the others. In the first place, the Bill proposes to bring within the jurisdiction of the Children's Court some cases which at present have to be heard and decided in the police courts. The types of offences are, firstly, assaults on children; and, secondly, indecent dealing with girls under the age of 13 years.

I think most, if not all, members would agree that charges of this kind would be better heard and decided in the Children's Court, rather than in open hearing in the police courts. There is a safeguarding provision for an accused person to obtain

a trial before a judge and jury, if he wishes to do so, in preference to being tried in the Children's Court.

Another provision in the Bill gives officers of the department the legal right to appear and to be heard in the Children's Court, where a child is before the court on the basis of an application made by some authority, as against a child being before the court as a result of a complaint made by some authority. Such children would either be regarded as destitute or neglected.

It is reasonable to claim, when any child does appear before the Children's Court under either of those headings, that an appropriate officer of the Child Welfare Department should have the opportunity to appear and to be heard, for the purpose of giving to the court the background of the child and all other relevant information which would be calculated to assist the court to arrive at the best conclusion possible on what should be done to safeguard, in the future, the welfare of the child concerned.

Another provision proposes to give power to the Minister to extend the period of probation of any child up to his 18th birthday. I was very much under the impression that this provision already existed, and I would be surprised to know that it does not exist. It might be the provision exists now only in relation to certain types of children, and the provision in the Bill might be intended to enable the Minister to extend the probationary period to the 18th birthday on a much wider basis than is applicable at the present time. I see no objection to this provision.

The other proposal in the Bill which justifies brief mention is the one which sets out to double the maximum child maintenance payment which can be ordered under the provisions of the Act. The existing maximum is 50s. per week per child; and the proposal in the Bill is a maximum of £5 per week per child. It does not require much knowledge or imagination to realise that a maximum of 50s. a week as maintenance for a child is, in these days, inadequate, and would do little else than provide food, at the most, quite apart from other necessities such as clothing and footwear. Therefore the proposed new maximum of £5 per week per child appears to be quite reasonable, and I am in favour of it. I support the second reading of the Bill.

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Transport) [3.37 p.m.]: I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his support of this Bill. I am aware that in his experience as a member of this House for very many years he has been connected with the welfare of children covered by the Act. Therefore it is pleasing to know that the Bill has his support. The various features he mentioned are not very contentious, although he does draw attention to some aspects of the Bill. The Minister for Child Welfare in another place will, of course, take due cognisance of his remarks.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr. I. W. Manning) in the Chair; Mr. Craig (Minister for Transport) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 5 put and passed.

Clause 6: Section 34C added—

Mr. GUTHRIE: The situation is that where the magistrate imposes a probationary period which ends before the child turns 18 years of age, and the Director of Child Welfare is not satisfied that during this probationary period the child has been restored to the straight and narrow path, there is nothing that can be done under the Act, unless the child commits another offence. The purpose of this provision is to give the Minister the power, in cases where he has received a recommendation from the Director of Child Welfare, to extend the period of supervision over the child for its benefit.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 7 to 15 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

GUARDIANSHIP OF INFANTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Craig (Minister for Transport):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. HAWKE (Northam—Leader of the Opposition) [3.43 p.m.]: This Bill has become necessary because of a provision contained in the Bill with which we have been dealing this afternoon—the one dealt with immediately prior to this one. It proposes to amend the provision in the Guardianship of Infants Act which lays down a maximum of 50s. per week as a maintenance payment for a child, and adopts the same principle as in the previous Bill of raising the maximum to £5 per week per child. I support the Bill.

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Transport) [3.44 p.m.]: I wish to add a brief word in support of this amending Bill. I am connected with quite a number of homes that cater for this type of child and I know from their experience that the amount available to them falls far

short of the present-day cost of upkeep, and the figure of £5 is considered more commensurate with the times.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

Sitting suspended from 3.47 to 4.11 p.m.

JUSTICES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Craig (Minister for Transport):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. HAWKE (Northam—Leader of the Opposition) [4.11 p.m.]: This Bill proposes to put into the Justices Act some new and stronger, and—so the Minister claims—better provisions for the enforcement of maintenance orders. He drew our attention to the provisions of the Act which was passed by Parliament in 1960 and which is known as the Married Persons (Summary Relief) Act of that year. He told us that the provisions for the enforcement of maintenance orders as set down in that Act are considered to be fair and equitable and therefore it is desirable, even if not necessary, to put the same enforcement provisions in the Justices Act in order that those provisions might have general application.

I am sorry the Minister did not think it necessary to give any information whatever to members as to what those enforcement provisions are. I know he has to rely on notes that are supplied to him by the appropriate Minister or by the departmental head concerned. However, I would have hoped that upon receiving such scanty notes as he did, he might have made a request to the appropriate Minister for more information to be supplied to him in order to prove his claim that these enforcement provisions which it is proposed to put into the Justices Act are, in fact, fair, equitable, and superior to other provisions of a similar character. I think that is the least that members are entitled to when a Bill of this nature comes before the House.

To understand what these proposed new enforcement provisions for the Justices Act are, one has, of course, to study closely the provisions of the Married Persons (Summary Relief) Act of 1960. I agree that is not a terrific mental burden to put upon any member, but I do suggest that when a Minister is making a second reading speech in explanation of a Bill he might at least put forward some information to indicate why the provisions which the House is asked to put into a Bill are considered by the Minister and the Government to be desirable; or, as is claimed in this instance, fair and equitable, and the best possible provisions.

I am not blaming the Minister, who is now in charge of this Bill, very much on this account; because, as I said earlier, the department which is concerned with this proposed amending legislation does not come under his ministerial jurisdiction. However, I suggest he advise the Minister concerned to provide more information in the departmental notes which are provided in future in relation to other Bills.

The main and best provision in my opinion in the enforcement of maintenance orders sections of the 1960 Act to which I have referred, is the one which lays it down that the serving of a term of imprisonment does not, as it did in former years, wipe out the financial responsibilities of the defaulter—those arrears which had accumulated up to the date when imprisonment first commenced.

I think I am correct in saying the first provision of that kind made in the law of this State was made in either 1957 or 1958 in relation to the Child Welfare Act; and it is perhaps appropriate and fair in the circumstances to say the original suggestion in the matter came from a member of the Legislative Council; and, as we all might immediately think, it was made by the woman member of the Legislative Council, The Hon. Mrs. Hutchison. Up till that time there were many deliberate defaulters in regard to maintenance payments who in most instances, out of sheer spite, refused to pay any maintenance for their wives or for their children, and who courted, as it were, arrest and imprisonment because the serving of a term of imprisonment at that time, no matter how short, wiped out all the accumulated arreas of maintenance; and the wife, or the children, or both—as the case might have been—were never able to have any claim to those accumulated arrears thereafter; and of course none of them was ever paid.

So the alteration as initially made in the law—the Child Welfare Act—was in my judgment a very good alteration; and it is being extended further—very much further of course—by putting into the Justices Act similar provisions. Therefore, I support the second reading of this Bill.

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Transport) [4.19 p.m.]: Once again I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his support of the Bill; although my thanks might not be quite as enthusiastic as they were on the previous occasion, because he mildly criticised me for not explaining more in detail what is included in the Married Persons (Summary Relief) Act

of 1960. I will admit, of course, that his knowledge of that Act is possibly greater than mine. Nevertheless, there is no particular feature of that Act to which objection has been raised at this stage. I am guided by the information conveyed to me by the Minister for Child Welfare who states that time and experience have shown that the working of that Act has been successful.

However, I will convey the points raised by the Leader of the Opposition to the Minister in another place, and I feel sure that he will observe the points of view put forward by the honourable member.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

INTERSTATE MAINTENANCE RECOVERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed, from the 4th September, on the following motion by Mr. Craig (Minister for Transport):—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

MR. HAWKE (Northam—Leader of the Opposition) [4.23 p.m.]: The purpose of this Bill is to establish legally more effective methods for the enforcement in Western Australia of what could be described as interstate maintenance recovery cases. Under the present law when a person comes from any one of the Eastern States to Western Australia, and there is a maintenance order in existence in one of the Eastern States against him, there are no sufficiently effective provisions in the law in the other States, or in this State, to ensure that such a person would be made to face up to his responsibilities.

It is not difficult to imagine that quite a number of persons who have maintenance orders made against them in the Eastern States, and who learn from some source or other that Western Australia would be a good place to live in to escape these orders, would find some way of getting here and of thereby escaping what would be their fair and reasonable obligations to their families. The main provision in this Bill is that maintenance orders made in the Eastern States against people who later come to this State shall be registered in the Married Persons' Relief Court in Perth, and the court would then affix a default for any non-payment, and the provisions of the Justices' Act would apply in regard to the recovery of those maintenance payments.

In effect, the passing of this Bill will mean that Eastern States defaulters who come to this State to live will be liable to have applied to them the same sort of enforcement proceedings as will be applied to local defaulters in Western Australia; and I think that in all the circumstances it is quite a reasonable proposition. I might add that provisions regarding enforcement will not be applied harshly, because this Bill makes certain allowances in regard to maintenance defaulters by giving the appropriate court in this State a discretion to suspend or cancel any arrest of the defaulter, and to suspend any sentence of imprisonment which might be imposed, provided the defaulter concerned can prove to the satisfaction of the court there are good reasons why the arrest should be cancelled or the sentence of imprisonment should not be enforced.

Therefore the provisions of this Bill are not completely one-sided, and they are certainly not harsh. They propose to apply to those Eastern States defaulters who come to Western Australia only the same measure of enforcement and the same degree of consideration as will generally be applicable to local defaulters of maintenance payments. In the circumstances I support the second reading.

MR. J. HEGNEY (Belmont) [4.29 p.m.]: I want to make an inquiry of the Minister regarding the new provision that is being written into the law covering interstate maintenance orders. I would like the Minister, when replying to the debate, to indicate whether this provision is being inserted into our law as a result of the conference of Ministers; and also whether a similar provision is being written into the laws of the other States of Australia.

In the district which I represent there are four or five difficult cases where husbands have left their womenfolk and there are maintenance orders against those husbands. In some cases the men concerned are threatening to go to the Eastern States to get away from their responsibilities. Because of the provision that is being incorporated in our Act through the passing of this Bill, I am wondering whether the same provision will apply in this type of legislation in Eastern Australia, so that orders made in Western Australia can be made effective in Eastern Australia.

This Bill will deter any defaulters from the Eastern States from entering Western Australia seeking to avoid their responsibilities to the wives and children whom they have left behind in those States. I know of one case in this State where there were four children in the family, and they were left in most difficult circumstances. Another man whose case I am acquainted with is at present in Fremantle gaol, and he refuses to meet his legal obligations to his wife and family. The circumstances surrounding his case were, of course, dealt

with in another Bill. Fortunately, if that Bill becomes law, his responsibilities will begin immediately on his release from Fremantle, and he will have to face up to them.

It is an important feature that an interstate maintenance recovery order is to be incorporated in the Act by this Bill. The number of unfortunate, broken marriages that one hears of is amazing; especially in some instances when the families have been broken up for no reason whatsoever. The deserted wives then go to the Married Persons' Relief Court and obtain maintenance orders against their husbands. However, they have extreme difficulty, sometimes, in making the orders effective. I will be pleased if the Minister can clarify the point I have raised. In conclusion, I would like to say it is a step in the right direction to have a reciprocal arrangement with other States in regard to maintenance orders, and I support the second reading.

MR. CRAIG (Toodyay—Minister for Transport) [4.32 p.m.]: I thank those members who have spoken in support of the Bill; and, as pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition, the passing of this measure will no doubt tend towards restraining a number of defaulters from coming to this State to escape their responsibilities. In reply to the member for Belmont, I would point out that other States do have reciprocal legislation, and this Bill will bring Western Australia into line. Therefore, with other members, I feel that the Bill will have the desired result.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etc.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

MENTAL HEALTH BILL

Second Reading

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Minister for Health) [3.37 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is the first and most important of four Bills which have to do with the future welfare of our community in so far as mental health and mental health services are concerned. Members will recognise the Bill as being similar to the one I introduced towards the close of last session, its long title then describing the measure as "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Treatment of Mental Disorder." Because of a number of amendments that have now been incorporated in this Bill, its long title has the words "and for incidental and other purposes" added.

The Bill, however, is the same in essence and implication as last year's measure, with the exception that it does not include, as part of its structure, a schedule providing for amendments to the Public Trustee Act, the Prisons Act, or the Criminal Code. These amendments are now framed in the form of separate Bills amending the respective parent Acts where those Acts relate to the care and treatment of the people concerned. The new structure of the Bill arises because of legal advice that it is a more desirable and a more acceptable procedure to present it in this way, with the support of the three complementary measures to which I have referred.

When I introduced last year's measure I said it was an important one. I regretted it was then submitted late in the session, but I did say that by submitting it then and allowing it to lapse until this session a great opportunity existed for its thorough examination by all members and by other interested persons and organisations. By and large the Bill has had considerable publicity. Might I say that this Bill has had the examination of a large number of people and organisations; and I hope that members themselves who are interested in the matter will also have taken advantage of the opportunity presented to them.

I, as Minister, have sought and obtained advice from many quarters; and much of the advice has been incorporated in this new Bill. A close observation of its provisions will show that, in addition to a new part in the Bill dealing with the estates of incapable persons, a number of amendments have been made besides those concerned with the schedules to the Bill which have, in my opinion and that of medical and legal experts, improved its provisions considerably.

New transitional provisions have been inserted as a schedule to the Bill, as the original measure did not make sufficient provision for the changed position of persons presently subject to the Acts which will be repealed. The definition of "mental disorder" was too general, and its terms have been clarified. The provisions as to discharge of patients have been given a division of their own and tidied up. A further clause has been added enabling the Minister to arrange for the discharge of patients to other States of the Commonwealth, and to receive them from other States. Power has been added for rules to be made by the judges.

As already mentioned, the new proposals to the Bill of last session have improved the measure in a number of ways. In this connection I am grateful for the assistance of the Law Reform Committee of the Law Society, various medical people, members of the legal profession, and various individuals and organisations, all of whom have shown keen interest in the

legislation. The assistance of all these people, plus that of the special committee originally appointed to investigate certain requirements, including mental health legislation, together with the co-operation of the State Health Council, has been instrumental in bringing forward what I believe to be well-considered and soundly-based legislation.

Members will agree, I think, that it should not be necessary to deal at length with the same subject matter as I dealt with last year, when I supplied certain data and detail and referred to the new trends in the care and treatment of those mentally afflicted. However, those who are interested in the legislation would, I feel, be advantaged by reading my introductory speech of last year.

At that time I mentioned that any new legislation should reflect the new trends, which are concerned with the rehabilitation of those now in our care; the practical provision for services aimed at prevention, wherever possible, in the concept that prevention is better than cure; the removal of existing certification procedures for admission to mental hospitals; and, because of this latter reason and other things, the removal of the stigma associated with mental illness.

In an effort to achieve all this, therefore, the Bill has been drafted with the consideration that admission to a mental hospital should be similar, so far as possible, to admission to a general hospital, with necessary safeguards in respect of those patients whose mental condition is such as to require compulsory admission. In many respects the proposals are based on our own Mental Treatment Act of 1927, which has been recognised—and I said this in my speech last year—as being one of the most advanced pieces of legislation in the Commonwealth.

I will now summarise the main principles embodied in the new Bill, and in mentioning these I will repeat briefly some of the references I made last session. A single uniform law will replace existing laws—i.e., the Lunacy Act, the Mental Treatment Acts, the Mental Treatment (War Service Patients) Act, and the Inebriates Act, all of which now deal with procedures for admission to hospital, care, treatment, and supervision.

Those willing to have treatment will be dealt with informally like patients suffering from other forms of illness in general hospitals. Compulsory powers in respect of treatment, special care, or supervision will be used only when they are considered essential in a patient's interest or that of the public, and then only when he refuses to accept, and only for as long as they are necessary. In a case where compulsion is necessary this would be on the basis of a medical report and the authority of a justice for the conveyance of the patient to, but not admission to, a hospital. The final question of admission would rest with the superintendent of the hospital.

The need for certification will be dispensed with, thus removing one of the main reasons why there has been a certain stigma attached to mental illness, and the admission of a patient to a mental hospital. Stronger safeguards than in the present Acts are provided against improper admission and detention, and unduly long detention. There will be no distinction between hospitals or between classes of mental disorder—namely, mental illness, mental deficiency, and inebriacy.

Words and phrases which for some years have been dropped from usage, although still in existing laws, and which now have unpleasant associations with mental disorder are avoided. I refer to such words and phrases as lunacy, insanity, asylums, mental institution, inmates, certified patients, inebriates, criminally insane, arrest, trial leave, on licence, escapes.

Adequate provision will be made for the transfer of the criminally mentally disordered to hospital from prison and return to prison where necessary. In respect of other patients requiring transfer between hospitals, this will be a matter of clinical judgment without the present formalities, and by arrangement between the superintendents of the hospitals.

Provision is also made for the convicted alcoholic; and the Bill will repeal the existing Inebriates Act, with the intent that appropriate provision will be made under the Criminal Code—which will be the subject of a separate Bill—to empower the court to order a person convicted of an offence of which drunkenness is an element or a contributing cause, to be placed in an institution established for the reception of convicted inebriates, for a period of up to 12 months. Appropriate provision will also need to be made under the Prisons Act—and this is also the subject of another Bill—to provide for the reception of such convicted persons.

Provision has also been made in a separate part of the Bill for the management of estates of those incapable of dealing with their affairs. Certain aspects of this matter are the subject of another measure, to which I will refer later. In repealing the Lunacy Act, 1903—and this is provided for in the first schedule to the Bill—it is not proposed to reinsert the old section 126 of the Lunacy Act in the Mental Health Bill.

That section required the payment of up to 5 per cent. of the annual income of an insane person to be paid to the Master in Lunacy. This has always been assessed by the Treasury, as are also fees by the Master in Lunacy for the time spent, etc., in the handling of the various estates. The amount so recovered by the

Treasury has been approximately £400 per annum. It is considered that adequate fees are charged by the Master and the Public Trustee for the services they render, so that by the removal of this section the Treasury will no longer make the assessment or receive the amount of £400 to which I have referred. I would also point out that provision is being made for trustee companies to be appointed managers in respect of estates of those incapable of handling their affairs.

With regard to children under 18, these will be admitted informally. At present, even babies may be certified. In the rare event of a parent or guardian neglecting his responsibilities, provision is being made in clause 79 of the Bill to deal with the situation by invoking the Child Welfare Act. Necessary powers also exist under the Education Act for those needing special attention or special care. Safeguards will be made to cater for the existing situation wherein patients now in hospital by compulsion will remain so during a transitional period over which their future can be assessed.

Existing arrangements or agreements between the Commonwealth and the State for the care and treatment of those with war-caused ailments—as, for example, patients housed in Lemnos—will not be varied or affected in any way, and a provision is inserted in the Bill to that effect. Administrative matters—duties of staff, disciplinary powers, which are provided for in existing laws and take up a considerable portion of them—will be omitted from the proposed Bill, and these will be dealt with by regulations as would be machinery provisions as deemed necessary.

As in the case with existing laws, there will be a board of visitors for each hospital—an independent body appointed by and directly responsible to the Minister for Health. These boards will have wide powers of investigation and, amongst other things, may report on all matters regarding the rights and welfare of patients in hospitals. It is proposed that the new provisions will come into operation on a date to be fixed by proclamation, and this will give necessary time for the organisation and implementation of regulations, the assessment of compulsory patients as referred to earlier, and any other requirements.

With the decrease in the formalities associated with treatment, particularly for those requesting it, and with new safeguards against unduly long compulsory detention or supervision, it is considered that the new provisions will diminish the dread of treatment and encourage patients or their relatives to seek treatment sooner, thus reducing not only their suffering but a degree of public concern.

It is pointed out that all we are trying to do in this proposed new legislation is, in most instances, to write into the law existing procedures in the light of modern thought and understanding of the mental health problem. Finally, I would like to say there are a number of organisations which are primarily, or for the most part, honorary in character, and which at present and in past years have done a great deal of very good work in their efforts to care for those suffering with some form or other of mental illness.

Besides the good work of actually caring for and helping to provide valuable assistance to those suffering with mental disorder, the great-hearted people of these organisations have done much more than this, and I refer to the fact that they have played an important role in helping to condition the public mind to a reasonable and sensible approach to mental illness, and in helping to remove the stigma that has been associated with it.

To all those who have helped and are helping I offer, as Minister for Health, my sincere appreciation, and I trust that the introduction and passage of this Bill through to its becoming law will further materially assist with the continuation of this desirable trend, for it should be understood that a sensible public appreciation of mental illness does much in itself to assist in the rehabilitation of those who suffer from this complaint.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Norton.

PUBLIC TRUSTEE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Chief Secretary) [4.57 p.m.]: I move—

> That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is the first of the complementary measures to the parent Bill, the Mental Health Bill; and members will have noted that I made some reference to it in the second reading speech which I have just delivered.

A large part of the existing Lunacy Act is devoted to provisions concerning the management of estates of people of unsound mind, or those who are incapable of handling their own affairs. These provisions are to be found in parts X and XI of that Act. As we are repealing the Lunacy Act in the schedule to the Mental Health Bill, something has to be done with regard to the provisions concerned.

When the Mental Health Bill was introduced last session, I advised that the subject matter would be dealt with by amending the Public Trustee Act, and that

was provided for in the second schedule to last year's Bill. Since then, however, as a result of representations from various sections of the community, it has been decided to restore the provisions for the management of the estates of incapable persons to their former position in mental health legislation. Members will now see that these provisions are in part 6 of the Mental Health Bill.

The Public Trustee Act, however, requires a few amendments to make it fit in with the new legislation applying to mental health, and that is the purpose of this particular Bill. Actually, there are no basic changes in the Public Trustee Act, and those that are proposed have been made at the instance of the Law Reform Committee of the Law Society, which included among its numbers the Public Trustee and the Master of the Supreme Court.

With the exception of two clauses—namely, clauses 30 and 31—the Bill makes no real change in the Public Trustee Act. All the provisions of the former division 4 of part II of the Public Trustee Act are being re-enacted in the Bill, but are being tidied up and made more appropriate, where necessary, to those appearing in the Mental Health Bill.

The two new clauses mentioned are particularly supported by the Public Trustee and his opposite numbers in other States. They provide for the proper handling of assets in other States of incapable patients who might be in our hospitals and *vice versa*, and by a most convenient method and without a great deal of expense or complicated procedures. Clause 4 makes the definitions tie in with those in the Mental Health Bill.

It will be observed that in the Bill, by clause 34, there are certain transitional provisions. These change the term "insane patients" to "incapable patients" notified under the provisions of the Mental Health Bill. These provisions enable the person's affairs to remain in the hands of the Public Trustee for a period of three months after the coming into operation of the Act, and for a longer period if the superintendent of the hospital in which the patient is being treated again reports that he is incapable of managing his affairs.

The intention is to get away from the provisions of the Lunacy Act whereby a person automatically becomes an insane patient if he is admitted to Claremont and is thus incapable of managing his affairs. Under the Mental Health Bill this will not necessarily be so, and every patient will need to be examined again to see whether his affairs should remain in the hands of the Public Trustee.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Norton.

CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Chief Secretary) [5.3 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is another of the complementary measures to which I referred when dealing with the Mental Health Bill, and it will be observed that clause 4 of that Bill repealed certain Acts. Two of these are the Inebriates Acts of 1912 and 1919.

In so far as the hospital care and treatment of these people are concerned, they will in future be dealt with in accordance with the voluntary provisions of the Mental Health Bill. But those persons who would be the subject of court proceedings will be dealt with under similar provisions of the repealed Inebriates Acts now to be transferred to the Criminal Code by the provisions of this amending Bill.

In effect, therefore, all this Bill seeks to do is to transfer the provisions of section 7 of the existing Inebriates Act, 1912, to the Criminal Code, together with those parts of section 6 concerning the requirements which the court must undertake to ensure the proper assessment of the inebriate before his committal. The Bill therefore sets out to add to the Criminal Code the following:—

> 669A. (1) Where a person is convicted summarily, by a court comprising a stipendiary magistrate, or on indictment, of an offence, and drunkenness is an element, or was a contributing cause, of the offence, the court, if satisfied that the offender is an inebriate, may, in its discretion, order the offender to be placed, for a period not exceeding twelve months, in an institution established for the reception of convicted inebriates.
>
> (2) A court shall not be deemed to have satisfied itself that an offender is an inebriate unless—
>
> (a) the Judge or magistrate has inspected, of appointed some person to inspect and report on, the offender;
>
> (b) there is produced to the court the certificate of a legally qualified medical practitioner that the offender is, in the opinion of the medical practitioner, an inebriate; and
>
> (c) the certificate mentioned in paragraph (b) of this subsection is corroborated by the evidence of some person other than the medical practitioner by whom it is given.
>
> (3) Every medical practitioner who signs a certificate under, and for the purposes of, this section shall specify

therein the facts upon which he has formed the opinion that the offender is an inebriate and shall distinguish, in the certificate, facts observed by him from facts communicated to him by others; and a certificate which purports to be founded only on facts communicated by others is invalid for the purposes of this section.

(4) The period for which an offender is placed in an institution under subsection (1) of this section may be extended by a Judge for a further period not exceeding twelve months.

(5) for the purposes of this section, "inebriate" means a person who habitually uses intoxicating liquor to excess.

The Bill also amends other parts of the Criminal Code where there are provisions applying to insane persons to the extent that the references will be to persons suffering from mental disorder. Furthermore, where there are references to certificates being required, the terms will be extended to "other documents" as well. There are other minor provisions which will tidy up existing sections of the Criminal Code to conform with present-day terminology.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Norton.

PRISONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

MR. ROSS HUTCHINSON (Cottesloe—Chief Secretary) [5.8 p.m.]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is the final complementary measure to the Mental Health Bill. I have just dealt with amendments to the Criminal Code and those sections of the repealed Inebriates Act proposed to be transferred to the Code.

It remains, therefore, for some suitable provision to be made for the reception and detention of the convicted inebriate. This Bill so provides, and sets out that the Governor may, by proclamation, set apart any suitable place, whether part of a prison or not, to be an institution for the reception of convicted inebriates—as, for instance, the Karnet Rehabilitation Centre at Serpentine.

Opportunity is also being taken to amend the term "hospital for the insane" in section 54 of the Act and to insert in its place the term "an approved hospital under the Mental Health Act, 1962," so as to bring such references into line with the new terminology.

Thus we have the pattern, in so far as the inebriate is concerned, of medical treatment in the Mental Health Bill for voluntary or compulsory reception in a hospital; court procedure for offences under the Criminal Code; and the care, reception, and rehabilitation of convicted inebriates under the Prisons Act.

Much has been said these days regarding the attitudes to alcoholism and the effect on those addicted to alcohol; and the proposals in this Bill will go a long way towards assisting in the rehabilitation of confirmed and habitual alcoholics who do suffer from what is known by Alcoholics Anonymous and other sections of the community as a disease.

Coincidental with our dealing with this measure, the Government is taking steps to establish, as I intimated earlier, a rehabilitation centre in the Serpentine region and this place is to be known as the Karnet Rehabilitation Centre and will be under the jurisdiction of the Prisons Department.

I think it appropriate at this point to give some information to the House as to what this institution is like and the purpose it will serve. Some facts about it will help the House to appreciate what is being done to assist in a practical way the implementation of the legislation which is being introduced.

For many years there has existed in legislation provision for the judiciary to send convicted alcoholics to a special institution for the purpose of rehabilitation. But until some time ago no steps had been taken to deal with this problem or set up this place.

Some 12 to 18 months ago a committee, comprising representatives of the Public Works Department, the Forests Department, and the Department of Agriculture, and officers of the Prisons Department, selected the site of the Karnet Rehabilitation Centre. It comprises approximately 700 acres of which 400 acres are arable land. It is situated 6.6 miles from the 36-mile peg on the South-West Highway, and is entirely surrounded by State forest.

This new centre which is being established is now well under way, and I hope it will be opened early next year—perhaps March. It will cost about £116,000 for the institutional buildings and £37,000 for the staff quarters. A water supply has already been established comprising a dam, which will impound approximately 18,000,000 gallons of water per year, with a pump house and a 50,000-gallon cement service tank for reticulation purposes, at a cost of approximately £20,000. This makes a total, for the fully equipped centre, of approximately £200,000, which includes furniture and equipment.

Some seventy acres have already been cleared for cultivation; and a telephone line has been constructed to the site. It is interesting to know that prison labour has been used to achieve this rather fine piece of work. Each day, over a long period of time now, a team of prisoners

from Fremantle Prison has gone out and worked very hard indeed to establish this phone connection to Karnet.

The State Electricity Commission has almost completed a power line to connect the institution with S.E.C. power. Applications have been called for the position of farm manager, and applicants for this position will be interviewed next week. The selection of suitable staff for the institution will follow almost immediately.

This institution will, of course, be under prison management; and it is along as modern lines as we can develop. Selected prisoners will be accommodated there who will be, it is hoped, trained and employed under strict discipline and supervision. They will be able to do the farm work and other labour which will assist in their rehabilitation. Modern penal systems provide training for prisoners in self-respect, and it is hoped that Karnet will give prisoners a sense of responsibility which will assist them in their rehabilitation and social adjustments.

The problem of the alcoholic has been under review by the Government for some considerable time, and the general conclusion emerging from organisations and individuals conversant with the problem of alcoholism show that imprisonment over a long or short term is no answer to the problem. Imprisonment has no curative value. Unfortunately, until now little has been done in the way of any constructive attempt to overcome it, and it was with this view in mind that the Government decided to incorporate an alcoholic institution at Karnet for convicted alcoholics.

Accommodation will be provided for 60 men in the area set aside for normally convicted prisoners, and for 60 convicted alcoholics in the area set apart for the alcoholic institution. The inmates will be housed in open dormitories under close observation, and each dormitory will have its own recreation and dining room attached. Ablution blocks and toilets will be on modern lines, and the whole of the institution and staff building will be septic sewered.

It is expected that after a period when the farm has begun to function fully, it will supply vegetables and farm produce to a number of Government institutions under the Prisons Department. Further areas will be planned for pastures in order that a dairy may be established, and we also hope eventually to establish a beef herd.

It will be apparent then that the establishment of the Karnet Rehabilitation Centre will be a big step forward in the practical treatment and rehabilitation of convicted alcoholics, and it is a step which has been long delayed but which will now, I feel sure, receive widespread approval from the community.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr. Norton.

BILLS (2): MESSAGES

Appropriation

Messages from the Governor received and read recommending appropriation for the purposes of the following Bills:—

1. Mental Health Bill.
2. Prisons Act Amendment Bill.

House adjourned at 5.18 p.m.

Legislative Council

Tuesday, the 11th September, 1962

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The PRESIDENT (The Hon. L. C. Diver) took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.